

Volume 18, Issue 1

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By Fred Feltmann 10/8/95

Before us, a path. Long, winding and steep; rock infested, and treacherous.

But doable. One step at a time!

After all, how many steps Can you take? At a time?

And why should you, or I, take that first step, and the next. and the next? Because its there? No!!!! Because we want to!

And why would we want to? The Challenge? The Sense of Adventure? To Learn? No! Not just that! But to bear witness

to the beauty and breadth of God and Nature! To see the hawk and the eagle, in their home, soaring free!

To see the delicate bloom huddled there. between the rocks. Proclaiming its ability to win over the elements. Standing out there to catch the warmth of the sun.

To see all of the vistas that God has created and takes care of. And know, that we too are part of His plan!

That is why we climb the Mountain!

February Newsletter Deadline

If you wish to have an article published in the March Newsletter, please submit it to Fred Feltmann at faf1948@bellsouth.net no later than January 20th!

January, 2024

Calendar of Events <u>Date</u> <u>Time</u> <u>Lo</u> January, 2024	- Friends/KMTC ocation	<u>Event</u>
01/13 8:30 am - noon	Pigeon Hill Parking Lot	January, 2024 Work Day - May be cancelled because of weather! See page 12 for weather policy.
01/16 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Visitor Center	Friends/KMTC Quarterly Board Mtg
01/20 8:30 am - noon February, 2024	Visitor Center	Crew Leader Class
2/10 8:30 am - noon	TBD	February, 2024 Work Day

The Park staff is conducting Virtual Events on their Facebook Page - <u>https://www.facebook.com/pg/KMNBP/posts/?ref=page_internal</u>

See pages 4 - 5 for a listing of NPS-sponsored events for the month of June.

Current Status Of Park

All NPS outdoor events at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park are being conducted.

All trails are open, except as noted, below. All parking lots are open. The Mountain Road parking lot is open when the Mountain Road is open.

Visitor Center is now open; masks are optional.

The Visitor Center theater is open - the movie is being shown.

The Mountain Rd. is open to motorized vehicles on weekdays only (excluding major holidays)

The shuttle bus is now transporting visitor to/from the Visitor Center/Kennesaw Mountain Top Parking Lot on weekends.

Trail closures

The horse trail crossing on John Ward Creek on the Kolb Farm East Trail is closed until further notice because of the treacherous creek crossing there.

List of Abbreviations

FOKM - Friends of Kennesaw Mountain

KMNBP - Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

KMTC - Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club

NPS/KEMO - National Park Service/Kennesaw Mountain

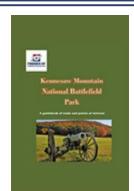
VHP - Veterans History Project

VC - Visitor Center

Newsletter Sign-up

Would you like to receive our newsletter? To sign up, click on the following link: <u>http://eepurl.com/gKjX1n</u> Complete and submit this form. You'll be added to our subscription list.

Wish to unsubscribe? Simply follow the instructions at the bottom of the email forwarding the newsletter link, and you'll be permanently removed from our mailing list. To re-subscribe, you will need to use a different email address - removal is permanent for the original email address!



Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Guidebook

The Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Guidebook sponsored by the Friends of KMNBP is now available on Amazon.

"Earthworks" is published monthly jointly by the Friends of KMNPB & the Kennesaw Mountain Trails Club. Editor: Fred Feltmann 678-315-5888

E-mail: <u>faf1948@bellsouth.net</u> Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!

Newsletter 2 http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org



Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield ParkInterpretive

Programs for January

*All outdoor programs are weather- dependent.

*Unless otherwise noted, all programs will be held at the Visitor Center

Museum Tours every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday @ 2:00 pm!

January 6th, @11 am- Mountaintop Hike

This ranger - led hike will take you roughly 1 mile up to the peak of Big Kennesaw Mountain. Along the way, you'll learn about the flora and fauna of the area and the history that shapes us from pre-history, through Civil War and on to today. The hike is semi-strenuous so bring water and good shoes!

January 7th, @11 am - 24-Gun Battery Hike

"The enemy's fire ceased after about 10 minutes, but created a path of destruction while it lasted"--*Confederate Captain* James Hoskins on the U.S. 24-Gun Battery. Join this approximately 1.5 mile, ranger-led hike to the site of this 24-gun position. The hike will include opportunities to see pre-and-post war history in the park, as well as a chance to see some of its wonderful natural resources.

<u>January 13th, @11 am– Life of a Soldier</u>

Life for the infantry soldier (Union or Confederate) was anything but easy. Long marches, bad food, and worse living conditions made it tough going for these young men. Join us as we lay out the gear that made such intense campaigning possible. You will see period-correct uniforms, weaponry and even get up close and personal with artifacts from the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain!

January 14, @11 am - Sherman's Special Field Orders No. 15

Almost a month after William T. Sherman's forces enter Savannah, the general would issue Special Field Orders No. 15. During the early years of the war, many southern planters evacuated the Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina coast in response to U.S. Navy presence. Sherman's orders would redistribute captured southern land on the coastline to the enslaved people that were still present. This short ranger talk dives into the background of these orders as well as the reaction and realities post war.

January 20th, @ 11 am – Pigeon Hill History Hike

"And from the earth there sprang a host of men..." On June 27th, 1864, some of the heaviest and most desperate fighting of the American Civil War would take place on a spur in rural Georgia. This Ranger-led history hike will be moderately difficult, so bring good shoes and plenty of water.

*This program is not at the Visitor Center; parking is at Pigeon Hill at the intersection of Old Mountain Rd. and Burnt Hickory Rd.

January 21st, @11 am- Picket Line Walk

The Battle of Kennesaw Mountain was a large scale offensive with many moving parts. One of the first actions of that day was a diversionary attack at the base of Kennesaw Mountain itself and part of the way up the slope. Join one of our rangers for a short walk along this line of battle as they detail the techniques, tactics, and aftermath of this fateful assault. This walk includes rolling, rocky terrain and is approximately 1.3 mile long.

Continued on Page 4

January 27th, @ 11 am – The Fighting McCooks

On June 27, 1864, Colonel Daniel McCook, Jr. led the Federal assault up Cheatham Hill, where he was mortally wounded. This brave man was not the only McCook to fight for the Federal army. This 30-minute program will introduce the 'Fighting McCooks', the story of 3 Ohio brothers and their 15 sons who joined the Federal forces and fought throughout the Civil War.

*This program is not at the Visitor Center; parking is at the Illinois Monument parking lot

January 28th, @11 am- Assault Trail Hike

On June 27th, 1864, nearly 9,000 Union soldiers made a historic charge into what they believed would be death or capture. Follow in the footsteps of these brave men as this ranger - guided tour explores the heaviest area of fighting during the battle.

*The hike will begin at the Activity Area 3 parking lot and end at the Illinois Monument.

*** For more program details, please contact Visitor Center at 770-427-4686, ext. 0_



2023 Volunteer Recognition Reception Honorees

THE PRESIDENT'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (4,000 + HOURS OF VOLUNTEERING)

- RENA BAILEY
- CAMERON SANDERS

2022 NPS Southeast Regional Volunteer Appreciation

• KEMO ARTILLERY CREW

This year's Volunteer Recognition Reception was sponsored by the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain. Many thanks to all of the volunteers who supported the National Park Service at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park this past year!

See page 6 for photos of the Reception.



National Park Service U.S Department of the Interior Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park 900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive Kennesaw, GA 30152

> (770) 427-4686 phone www.nps.gov/kemo

National Park Service, U.S.Department of the Interior, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, 900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30152, (770) 427-4686 phone, www.nps.gov/kemo

Kennesaw Mountain News Release

Release Date: Immediately Contact: Marjorie Thomas, <u>Marjorie thomas@nps.gov</u>, 770-427-4686 x 231

John Ward Creek Crossing Closed to Horseback Riders

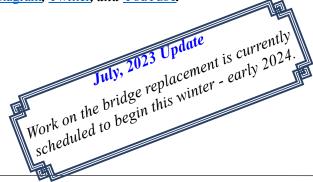
Kennesaw, GA – Effective immediately, the John Ward Creek crossing just south of the Illinois Monument is closed to horseback riders until further notice. This closure stems from a safety concern due to hazardous conditions relating to an unstable streambed. The closure affects the creek crossing between Milepost 3.5 and Milepost 4 of the Kolb's Farm East Trail.

Superintendent Patrick Gamman states, "We are concerned for the safety of all park users. Crossing John Ward Creek at this section of the trail poses a risk that we want to alert our horse community to, as it could potentially cause harm to both horse and rider. We will be working as quickly as possible to mitigate this problem."

Please contact the park at 770-427-4686 or visit the park's website at <u>www.nps.gov/kemo</u> for further information.

The National Park Service

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 423 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at the <u>NPS</u> website, and on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

2023 NPS Volunteer Recognition Reception *Photos by Scott Mackay*















The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain Are Looking For A Few Good Folks!

Like the Trail Club, the Friends have many opportunities for volunteers to provide services to the Park. Here are a few select ones:

Butterfly Garden & Plant Nursery Coordinator - This individual would work with the NPS staff at the park to coordinate volunteer projects around the Park

160th Anniversary (2024) Coordinator - This individual would head up a volunteer group to coordinate various activities with the NPS staff to conduct the 160th Anniversary of the Battle for Kennesaw Mountain.

Activities might be:

- Fundraising
- · Parking
- · Food logistics for feeding the various volunteers
- General logistics
- Publicity
- · Hospitality Services

Endowment Fund Chair - Coordinate/lead the activities necessary to establish an Endowment Fund for the Friends:

- Policies
- Publicity
- •Establish a core group to manage it

Legal Secretary

For more information on these positions, contact Scott Mackay - <u>box2105@mindspring.com</u>

Friends/KMTC Organization Chart

The organization chart for the newly merged group is still a work in progress and will be finalized by the February Newsletter. For the time being, contact Donald Olds if you have any questions or are interested joining the Friends as a committee member.

The Dipjar - New Donation Option!

The Friends are offering visitors at the Visitor Center another

option to donate - the Dipjar. Visitors will be able to use their credit card to donate \$25 to the Friends while at the Visitor Center. In addition, the Friends will have a portable version at various events sponsored by either the Friends or KMTC. The portable version will offer the opportunity to donate \$10 at these events.



Scott Mackay

Website - Friends Website - NPS Facebook Page - Friends Facebook Page - NPS Twitter Instagram https://friendsofkmnbp.org/ www.nps/kemo.gov https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofKMNBP https://www.facebook.com/KMNBP https://twitter.com/FKmnbp https://www.instagram.com/FriendsofKMNBP/

* updated



The Friends Of Kennesaw Mountain

The Friends of Kennesasw Mountain's mission is to raise funds to support programs and projects at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Your Membership helps to fund this mission.

Please join us.

Our website is **FriendsOfKMNBP.org.**

Visit to find out more info, to donate, or to sign up for one of our Board positions or to register as a member of the Friends organization.

Our Mission:

The mission of the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain is to work in partnership with the National Park Service and the local community to provide volunteers and raise funding to support activities such as:

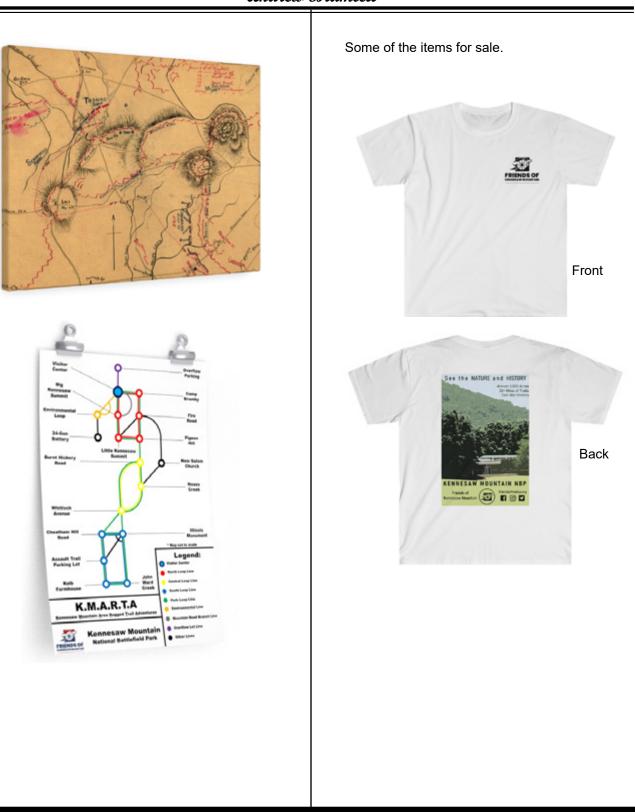
- Visitor & Away Events
- Transportation, Housing, and Feeding of volunteer groups (example: Living History, Student Conservation Association, Invasive Plants Team)
- Museum Upgrades and Indoor and Outdoor Exhibit Additions (& the Wallis House)
- Restrooms, Parking, and Picnic Area Facilities
- Trails, Fire Roads, and Bridges Maintenance
- Educational Day Trips and Vacation Camps
- Volunteer-In-Park Training Programs

The ultimate goal is to create endowments for the most significant expense items and move them toward a sustainable and perpetual self-funded status that reduces the need for these items to rely on federal budget support.



The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain Webstore

The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain is excited to announce our new webstore! Our first product is a unisex T-shirt, which is 100% cotton. The design on the back of the shirt shows Kennesaw Mountain and the Visitor Center. It is inspired by the New Deal travel posters from the 1930's. The shirt can be purchased online for \$20 at https://friendsofkmnbp.org/ by the New Deal travel posters from the 1930's. The shirt can be purchased online for \$20 at https://friendsofkmnbp.org/ shop/. Visit our website! New items have been added!



Andrew Bramlett



Become a supporting member of the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park (KMNBP)

The Friends of KMNBP's mission is to raise funds to support programs and projects at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

These include:

Hiking/Equestrian Trail improvements and Maintenance

Museum improvements and expansion

Living History Demonstrations

Additional parking and restrooms

Guest speakers

More

Our long term goal is to establish endowments to provide perpetual sources of funding for the programs that make the park special for all of us and generations to come.

Six Ways To Donate

You can support the Friends in 5 ways:

- 1. Directly through our website <u>https://friendsofkmnbp.</u> org/giving-membership/donate/
- 2. Through PayPal <u>https://www.paypal.com/US/</u> <u>fundraiser/charity/3750205</u>
- Through Guidestar (Network for Good) <u>https://www.</u> nfggive.com/donation/83-4627827
- 4. QR Code:





Your annual membership will help us achieve our goals. We are a 501(c)(3) tax deductible organization. 100% of all funds received are put to use for and at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Annual membership levels:

		I			
tenance to provide it make the ie.		 viduals \$15 Corporal (Student) \$25 Sergeant \$100 First Sergeant \$300 Ordinance Sergeant \$500 Quarter Master \$1,000 Sergeant Major \$1,500+ General messes \$150 Company \$300 Regiment \$500 Brigade 	FRIENDS OF		
		 \$1,000 Division \$15,000 Corps \$25,000+ Army 	KENNESAW MOUNTAIN		
	5.	DipJar located in the Vis	aitor Contor Nowl		
	5.	Dipjar located in the vis	Silor Center - New!		
. ()	6.	Or, by mailing to:			
ofkmnbp.		Friends of KMNBP			
.com/US/		905 Kennesaw Mountain Drive Kennesaw, GA 30152			
<u>ps://www.</u>		Thanks for your support!			

Please Use the pledge card on the following page when mailing in a donation.

Please check with your company to see if they will match your gift.



FY 2023 Fundraising Goals

Following is a list of the fundraising goals for this year:

- \$2,000 FY 2023 Friends administrative budget.
- \$3,000 159th Battle Anniversary meals, incidentals
- \$10,000 Funds to be used in conjunction with the Park to acquire an additional cannon and trailer (total cost estimated to be \$82,000) for the Living History program.
- \$3600 to provide for the purchase of 5 bicycle racks and signage for them.
- \$50,000 seed money for the 160th Anniversary of the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain (June, 2024) total estimate for event is expected to be approximately \$150,000.
- \$10,000 to fund various activities of the Living History program, the Friends and the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club.

Total to be raised during the current fiscal year - \$76,600. See the bottom of this page for a pledge card, or send your donation by one of the methods identified on page 15.

In addition, the funding of an Endowment Fund. Details will be discussed at future Board meetings.

Friends of Kennesaw Mountain Natio	One Payment	
2024 Pledge Card	Quarterly Payment	
Name	Corporate \$150 Company	Monthly Payment Does your company match? Y N Invoice me (Monthly Quarterly) Check enclosed (Payable to " <i>Friends of KMNBP</i> ") Credit Card Number: Expiration date Security Code I wish to remain anonymous



December, 2023 Work Day

The workday was cancelled because of the weather.

January, 2024 Work Day

Our next workday is Saturday, January 13, 2024, weather permitting. We will be working on the New Salem Reroute installing at least 3 berms on the south side and one on the north side, closing the social trails on the south side, and any other issues we see now that the trail is about six months old.

"Weather permits" is defined as:

- If the temperature is above 45 degrees at 8:30 everything goes according to plan.
- If the temperature is below 45 degrees at 8:30 we will cancel the high school kids and may do a Crew Leader work day, depending on the desire of the group; any adult volunteers that want to participate in the workday may do so at their discretion.
- Naturally, if we have rain, sleet, snow, etc., we will completely cancel the workday.

Mike Collett Trails Director

Crew Leader Training Class

There will be a Crew Leader training class on January 20, 2024. We'll meet at the Maintenance shed at 9:00 am. Class will dismiss at Noon. Contact Mike Collett to sign up and for further details - see email address, below.

Crew Leader & Trail Ambassador Positions Available!

Contact Mike Collett (regarding Crew Leader positions) or Kathy Van Valkenburg/Wendy Turner (Trail Ambassador positions) if interested.

A training class for Crew Leaders is scheduled for January 20, 2024, starting at 9 am. Contact Mike Collett, below, if you are interested or need more details and to sign up.

Mike Collett - trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

A training class for prospective Trail Ambassadors will be announced shortly.

Kathy Van Valkenburg/Wendy Turner ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

A Special Thanks!

Each year we have various groups who come out and help us. Henceforth, we will make every attempt to list your group here for the current/past fiscal year. If you are participating as a group, be sure to let us know when you are registering!

Following is a list, in alphabetical order, of the groups who participated during Fiscal 2023 (October 2022- September 2023 and Fiscal 2024 (October 2023- Present):

<u>FY 2023</u>

Allatoona HS NJROTC Atlanta Outdoor Club (AOC) GA Tech ROTC Harrison High School Hillgrove HS NJROTC King's Academy HS AFJROTC KSU KSU, Alpha Phi Omega KSU Volunteer Day Students Marietta HS Sportsmans Club

<u>FY 2024</u>

Allatoona HS NJROTC Atlanta Outdoor Club Hillgrove HS NJROTC KSU

This Past Month's Volunteers

The December Work Day was cancelled because of inclement weather.

"Other" Volunteers Needed!

Interested in being more active with the Trail Club (or the Friends), but don't want to do Crew Leader or Trail Ambassador



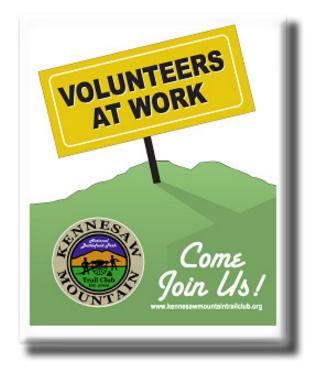
work? See page **7** for a list of activities/functions needed to maintain the organizations and contact the various department heads to volunteer!

Newsletter 12 http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

2023/2024 Fund Raising

All future KMTC fundraising will now be handled through the Friends - see pages 11 & 12 for options for donating.

Thanks to all who have contributed in the past to make the Trail Club a success. Please contribute to the Friends to continue our mission. You can designate the funds from your donation be directed toward specific areas of the Friends - see the pledge card - page 12.



Register for Our Work Days!

Be sure to register online for our Work





Days at tinyurl. com/27ef2vph. By registering, we can be better prepared with the amount of tools, bottled water, gloves, etc. on hand.

Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming Work Day Schedule:

We are back in the business of trail maintenance! See the sign-up links, above. We are still limiting our numbers, but anyone one is now welcome to sign-up.

The Trail Club will provide supervision and tools. Volunteers should wear work clothes and closed toed shoes. Participants are encouraged to bring their own water, work gloves and masks. The NPS Volunteer Service Agreement and COVID forms are required, signed by a parent or guardian, if the student is under 18 years old. The forms are available on the trail club web site: http://www. kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/volunteer.php

For December's work day, parking and registration will be in the field near the Pigeon Hill Parking Lot, at the intersection of Old Mountain Rd. and Burnt Hickory. Registration will open at 8:30 am. Vehicle Entrance Passes will issued at registration.

If your school, church, business, or community organization

would like to schedule a special work day as a team building or public service activity, e-mail us at trails@ kennesawmountaintrailclub.org at least 4 weeks in advance. Trail work can be performed any day of the week.

We work closely with the Park Service and assist the park staff by providing critically needed volunteer effort to install signs, build bridges, and maintain the 20+ miles of trails. Since our beginning in 2002, the Trail Club has donated over 281,000 volunteer hours to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

We hope to see you at a work day as soon as we return to our normal work days.

Cancellation policy

If rain is forecast for the work day, we will issue a cancellation notice on our website at least 24 hours before hand. In addition, during the winter months, if the temperature is forecast to be below 40 degrees, we will also issue a cancellation at least 24 hours prior to the work day.

KMTC Contact List - Updated 1/4/24 Position NAME

Trails Director

Community Volunteer Director Newsletter Editor Information/Technology Director Trail Ambassador Co-Director Trail Ambassador Co-Director Plants Director

KMTC Website NPS Website Facebook Page

Volunteer Sign-up website*

* updated

Mike Collett **Rena Bailey** Fred Feltmann Jerry Givan Kathy Van Valkenburg Wendy Turner Danny Leigh

E-MAIL

trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org volunteerdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org comdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org webmaster@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org plants@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/ https://www.nps.gov/KEMO http://www.facebook.com/kmtcsocial www.tinyurl.com/27ef2vph

Newsletter 14

http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

Sponsors/Partners Corner Many thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their support!



KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK Trail Maintenance Map

Newsletter 15 http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org